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Stowe

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(54) **ZIPPER LOCKING DEVICE FOR A LUGGAGE CASE**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **70/68**; 70/312
(58) **Field of Search** 70/68, 67, 69, 70/70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 312

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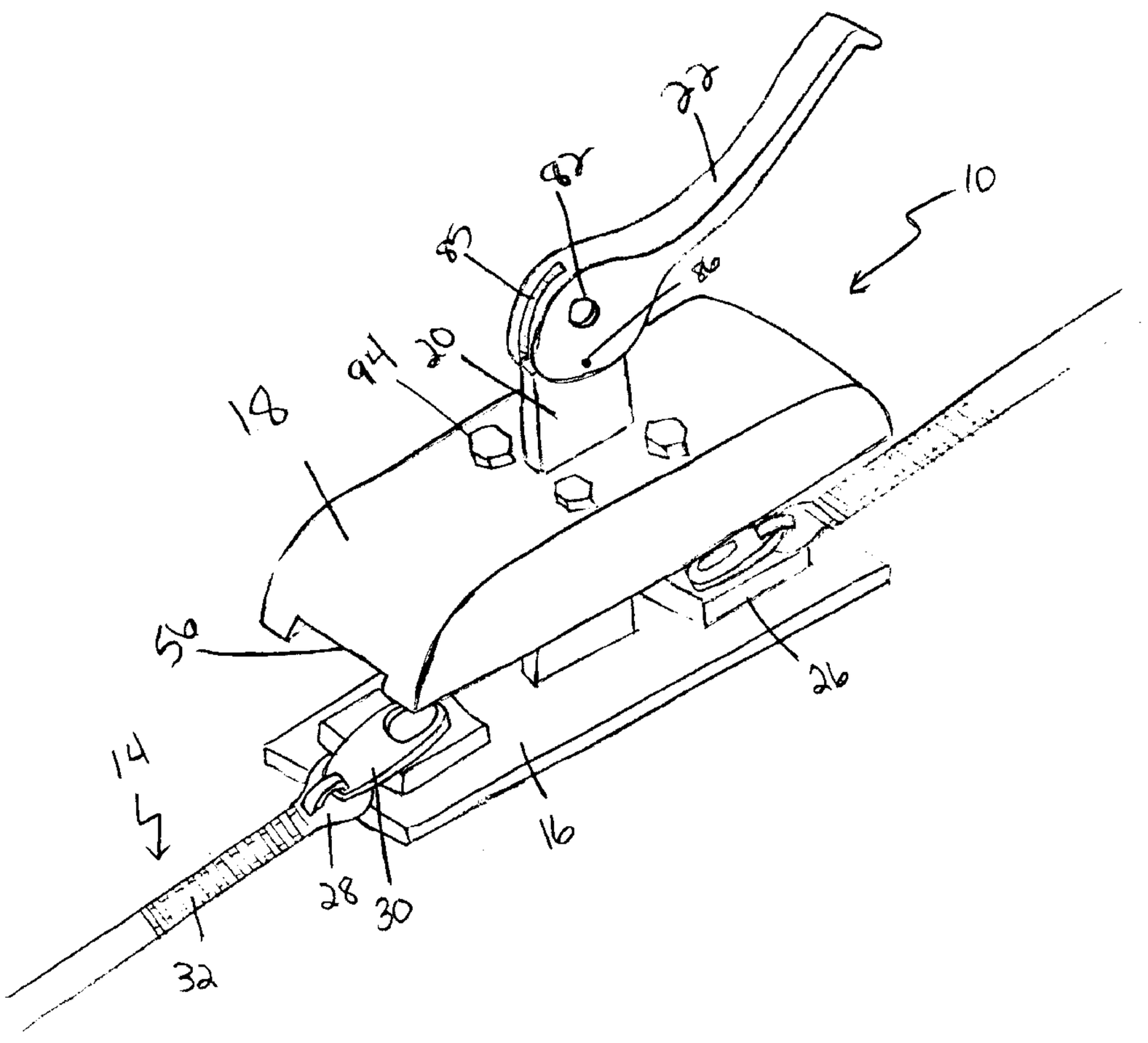
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A zipper locking device (**10**) for securing a double-slider zipper (**14**) comprising a housing (**18**), a base (**16**), a vertically extending member (**20**), a pivoting arm (**22**), a pair of compressible pads (**26**), a stabilizer (**24**), and a means for locking (**34**) the device (**10**). The vertically extending member (**20**) extends from the base (**16**) and projects in the upwardly direction through an aperture (**54**) in the housing (**18**), allowing for the translational movement of the housing (**18**) along the vertically extending member (**20**) between a closed position and an open position. The vertically extending member (**20**) and the pivoting arm (**22**) each have an aperture (**72, 82**), which align to allow the entry of a locking means (**34**) through the apertures (**72, 82**) when the zipper locking device (**10**) is in the closed position. The locking means (**34**) prevents the translational movement of the housing (**18**) along the vertically extending member (**20**), securing the zipper sliders (**28**) of a double-slider zipper (**14**) within the housing (**18**). Removal of the locking means (**34**) allows for the translational movement of the housing (**18**) along the vertically extending member (**20**) and removal or insertion of the zipper sliders (**28**).

28 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets



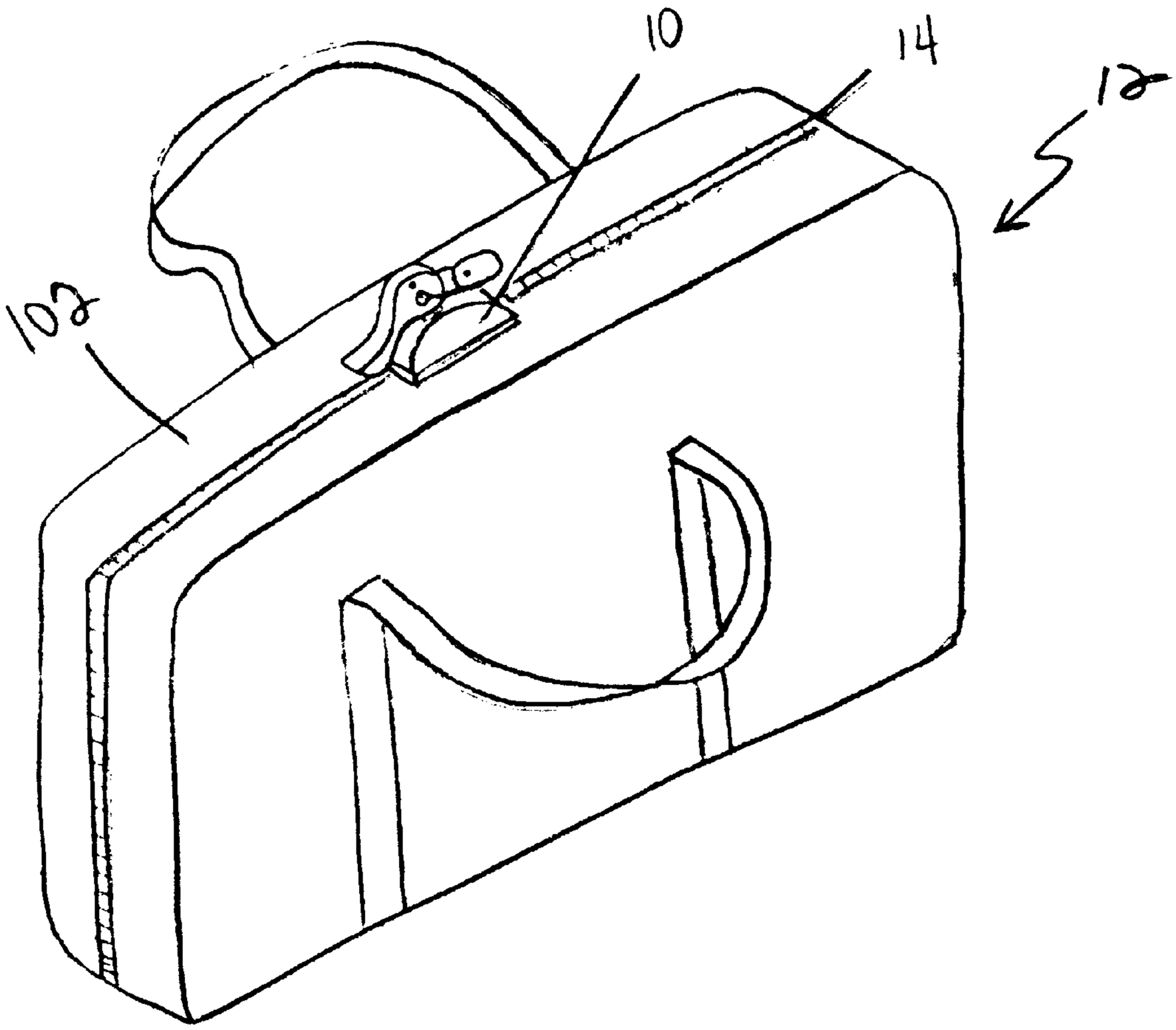


FIG. 1

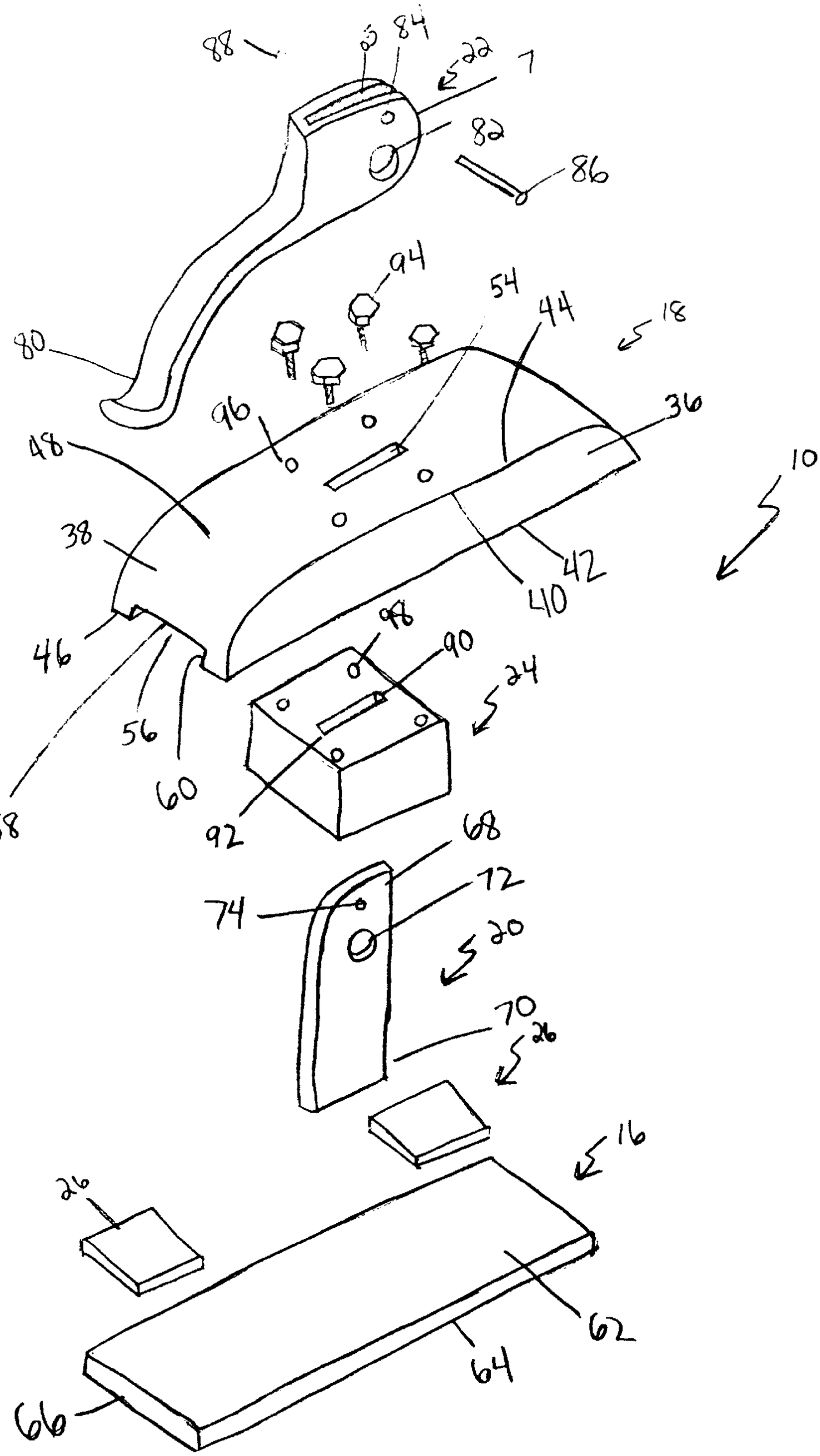

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FIG. 2

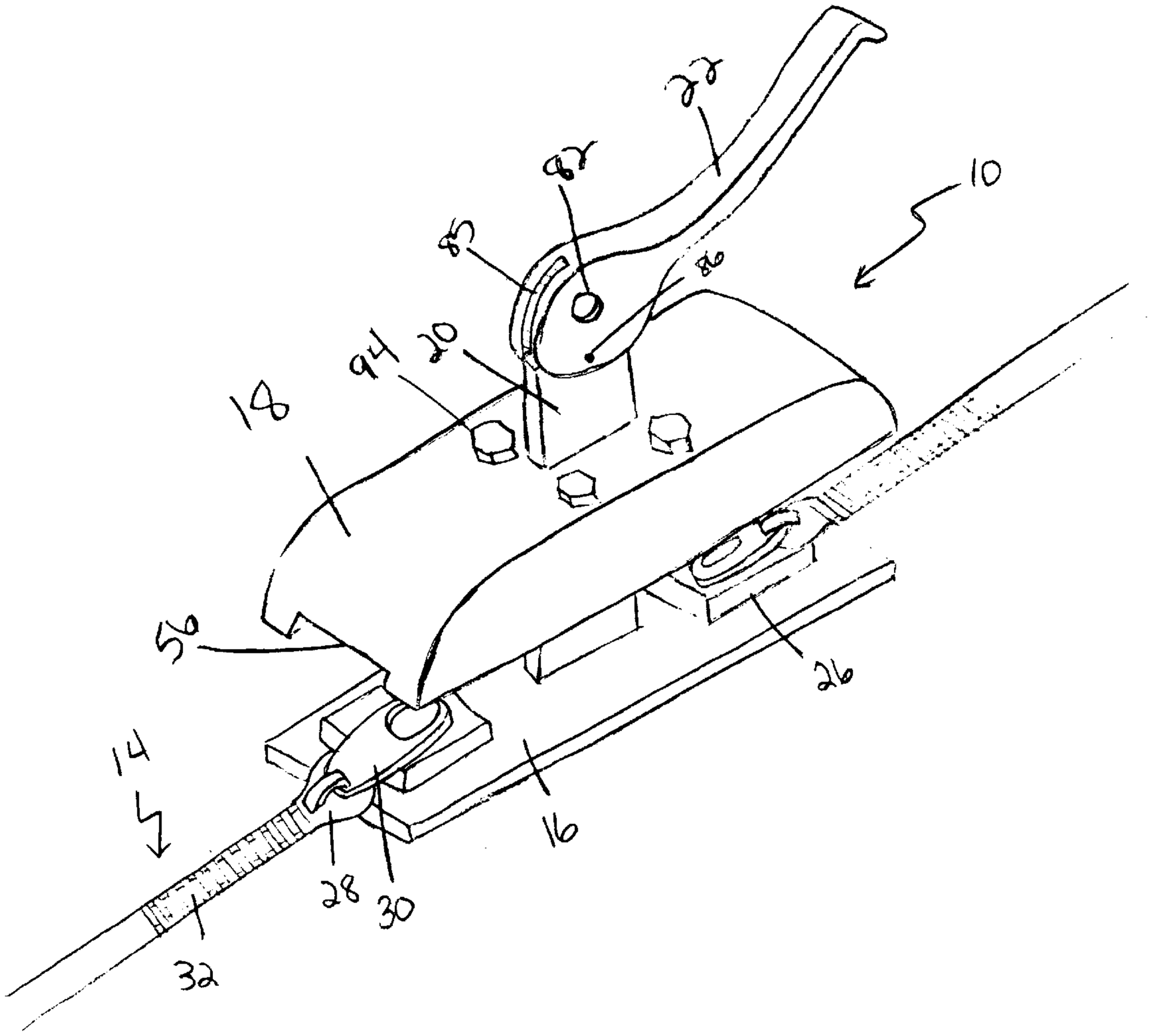

FIG.3

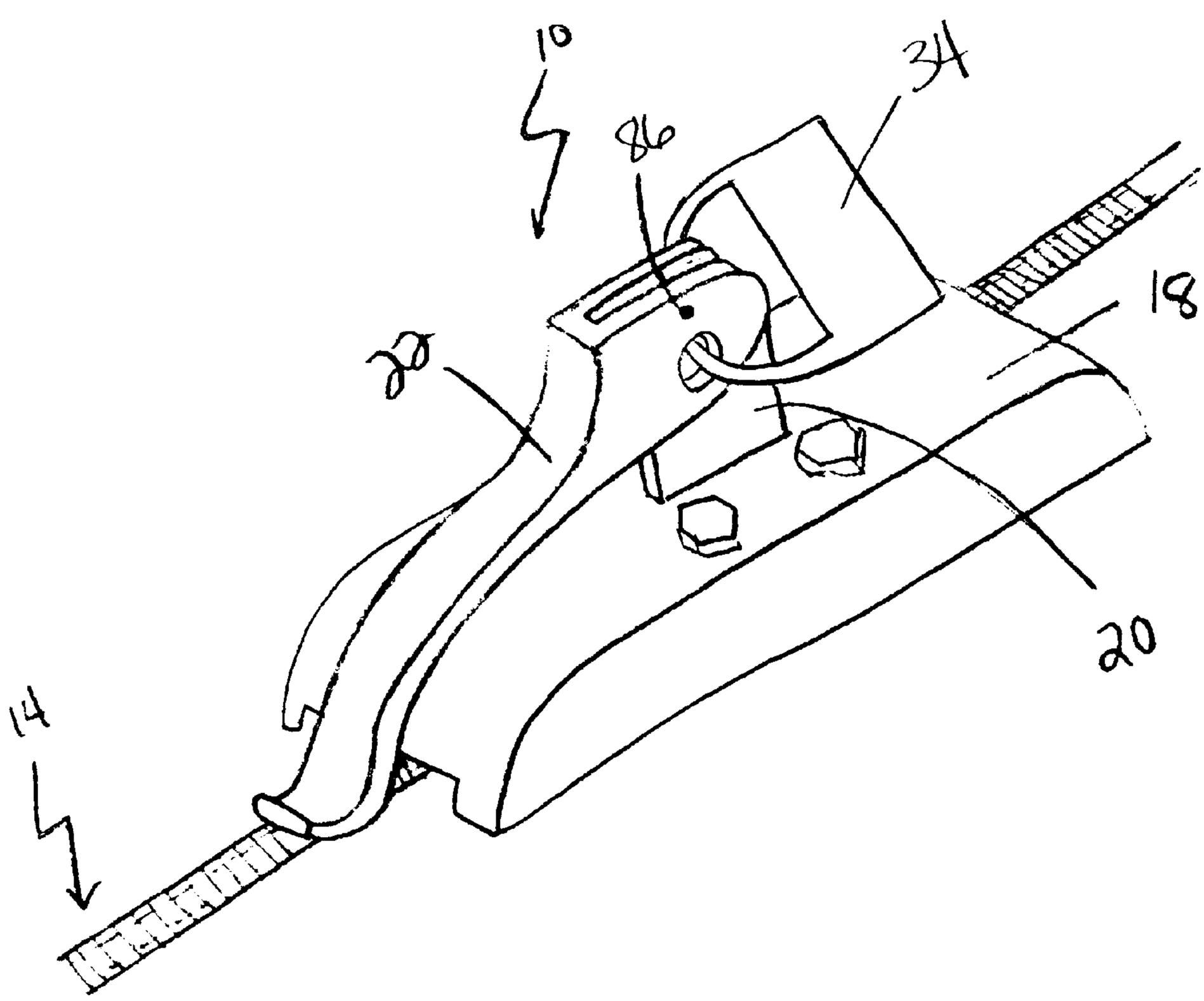

FIG. 4

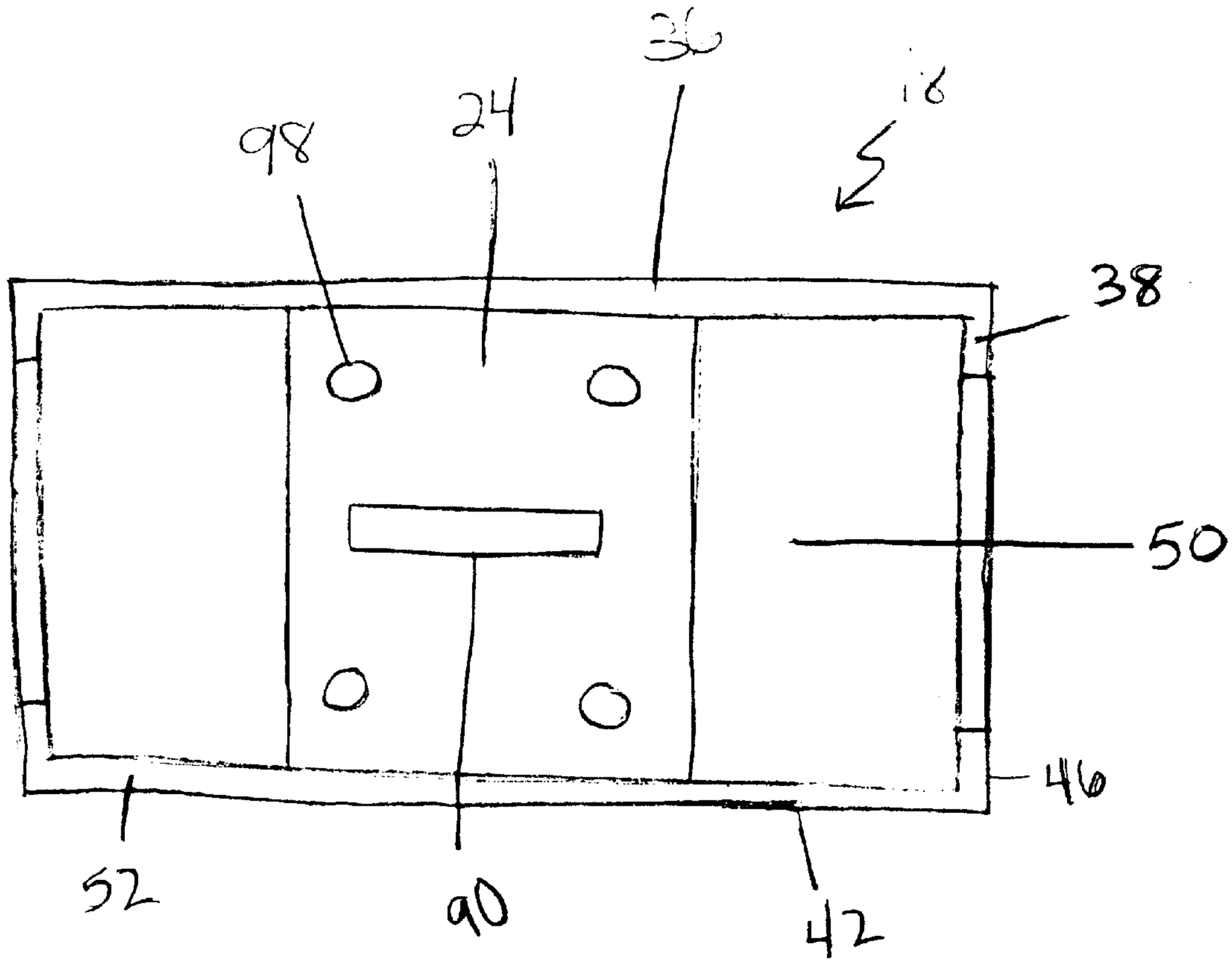

FIG. 5

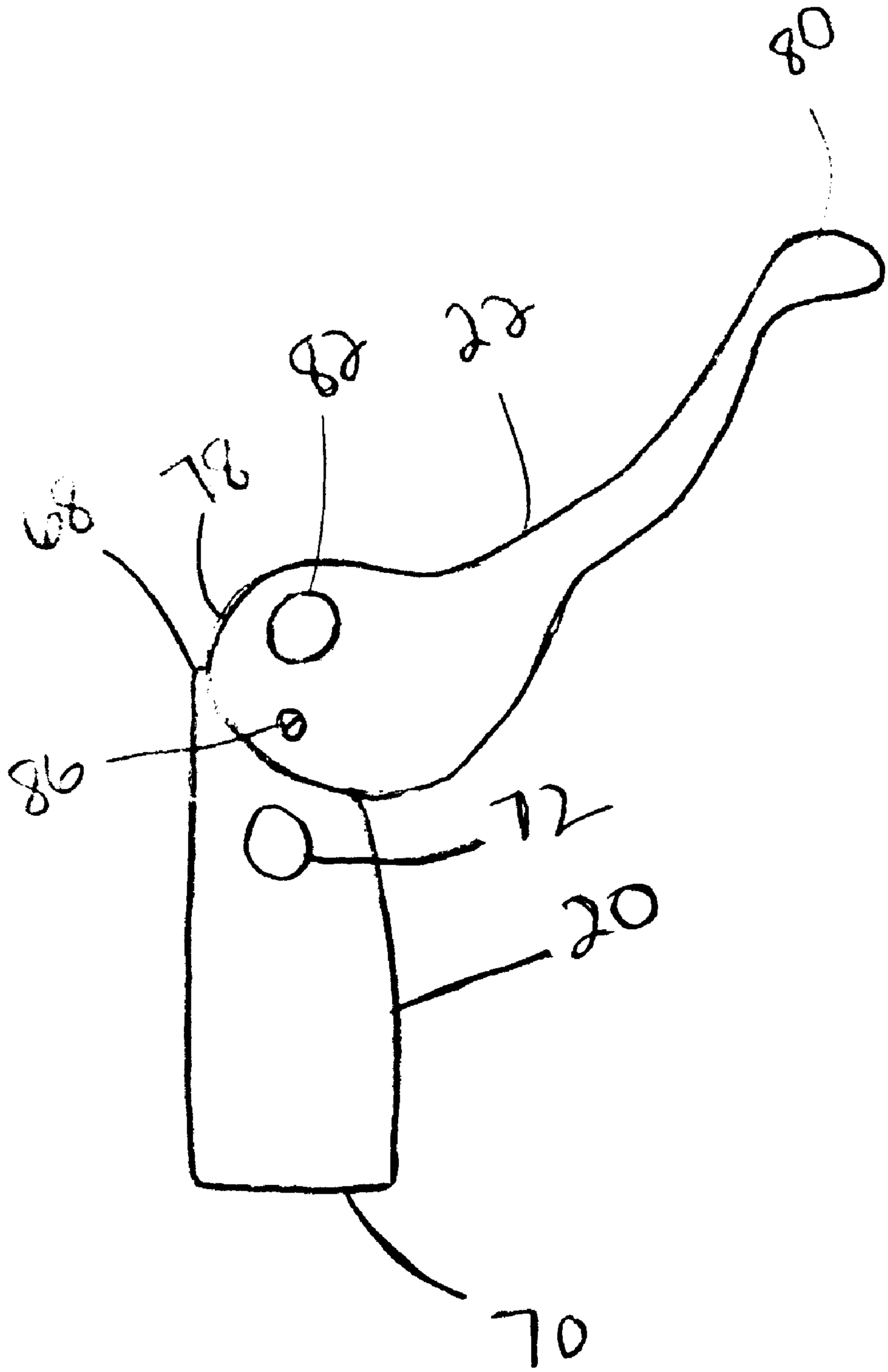

FIG. 6

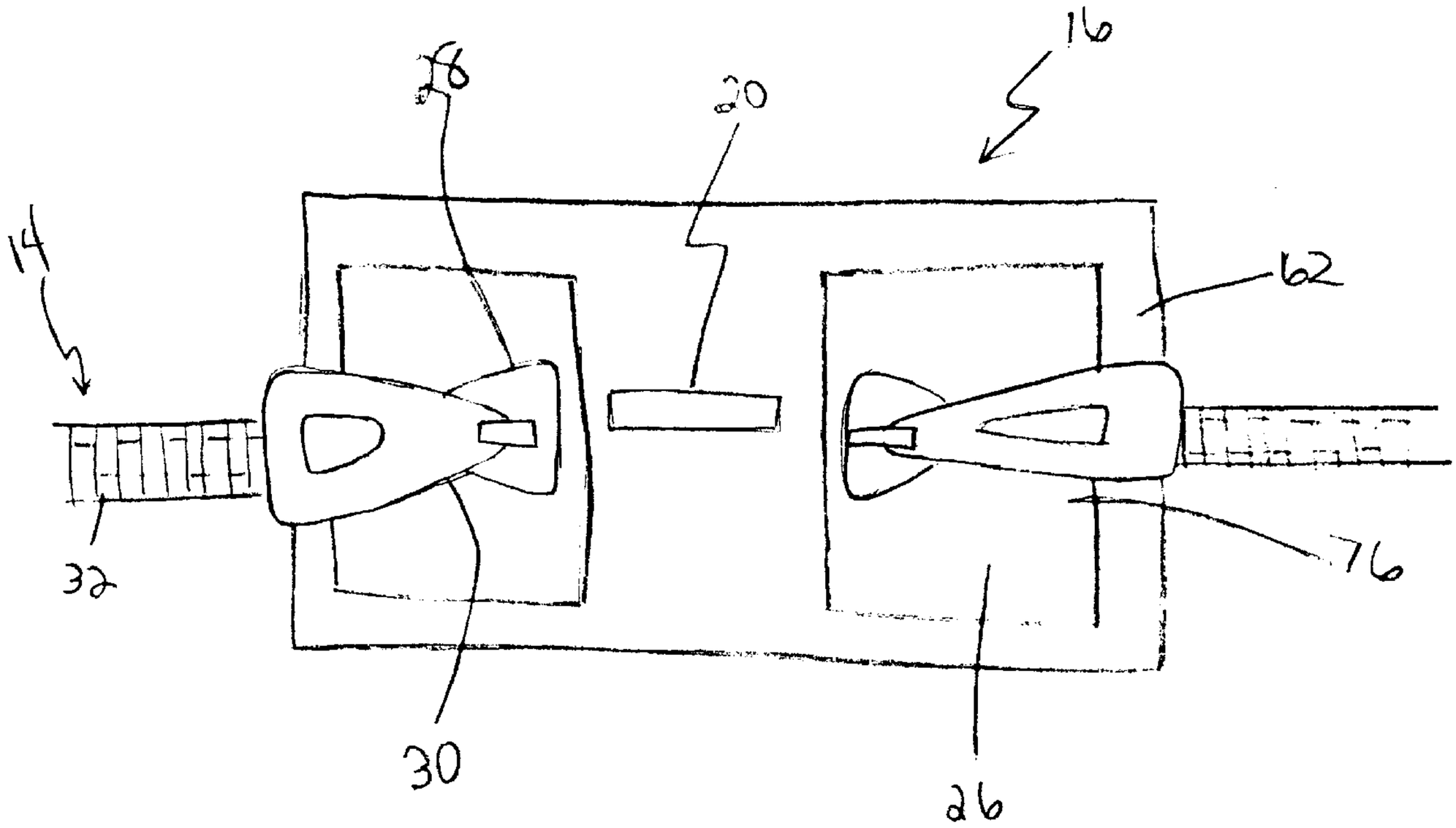

FIG. 7

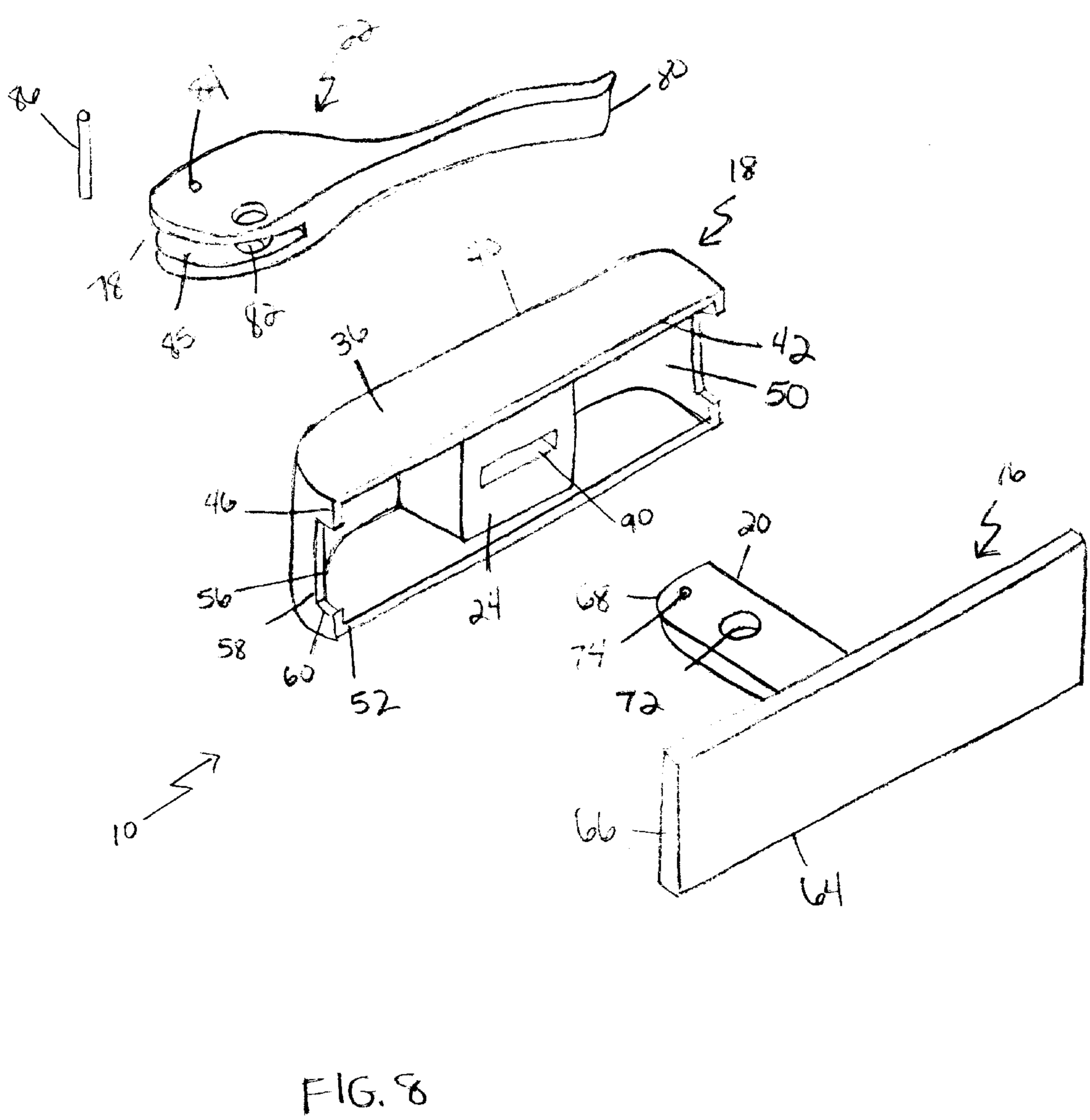
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FIG. 8

ZIPPER LOCKING DEVICE FOR A LUGGAGE CASE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a new and improved zipper locking device for a luggage case used to prevent unauthorized access to the interior contents of the luggage case. More specifically, the invention is directed to a removable zipper locking device for use on a luggage case with a double slider zipper, the zipper sliders of each zipper being encased in the zipper locking device in the closed position.

2. Description of the Related Art

Numerous devices have heretofore been proposed for locking zippers on a luggage case in order to protect the interior contents of the luggage case from loss or theft. However, each of the prior art devices have been found wanting in one or more particulars. In particular, these devices have been permanently anchored to the luggage case. These devices could not be removed and used on different pieces of luggage. In addition, in many of the prior art devices, the locking mechanism which is used to secure the device is incorporated into the zipper locking device.

Hence, there is a need in the art for a zipper locking device for a luggage case which is removable from a luggage case and can be used on various different luggage cases. There is also a need in the art for a zipper locking device which is not incorporated with the locking mechanism of the zipper locking device.

It is a primary object of the present invention to provide a new and improved zipper locking device for a luggage case.

A further object of the present invention is to provide an improved zipper locking device for a luggage case which has safety and practical features.

Another object of the instant invention is to provide a zipper locking device for a double slider zipper which encases the zipper sliders and does not leave a gap between the zipper sliders when the zipper is closed.

A further object of the present invention is to provide an improved zipper locking device for a luggage case which is small in size and compact.

Another object of the instant invention is to provide an improved zipper locking device for a luggage case which is removable from a luggage case and usable on different luggage cases.

A further object of the present invention is to provide an improved zipper locking device for a luggage case which is easily attached to zipper sliders and is convenient to use.

Another object of the instant invention is to provide an improved zipper locking device for a luggage case which prevents unauthorized access to the interior contents of the luggage case.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a zipper locking device for a luggage case which incorporates a separate locking mechanism for locking the zipper locking device.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide an improved zipper locking device for a luggage case which has all the advantages of the prior art and none of its disadvantages.

These together with other objects of the invention, along with the various features of novelty which characterize the invention, are pointed out with particularity in the detailed

description annexed to and forming a part of this disclosure. For a better understanding of the invention, its operating advantages and the specific objects attained by its uses, reference should be had to the accompanying drawings and descriptive matter in which there is illustrated a preferred embodiment of the invention.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

A broad aspect of the invention comprises a zipper locking device. One embodiment of the invention utilizes a housing having an aperture and an pair of opposing horizontal indents at the base of the housing, a rectangular base, a vertically extending member having an aperture, the vertically extending member projecting from the base and positioned to extend through the aperture of the housing, two compressible pads mounted to the base, each compressible pad positioned proximate to one of the horizontal indents, an arm pivotally attached to the vertically extending member, the arm having an aperture that aligns with the aperture of the vertically extending member when the device is in the locked position, a stabilizer having an aperture attached to the housing, the aperture of the stabilizer aligned with the aperture of the housing for the passage of the vertically extending member therethrough, and a means for locking the zipper locking device which passes through the aligned apertures of the arm and the vertically extending member.

In the closed position, the housing is lowered. The arm is pivoted in a downwardly direction towards the housing, aligning the apertures of the arm and the vertically extending member and allowing for the passage of a locking means therethrough. In the open position, the locking means is removed, and the arm is pivoted in an upwardly direction away from the housing, misaligning the aperture of the vertically extending member and the aperture of the arm. The housing can then be translated along the vertically extending member in the upwardly direction, allowing for the insertion of a pair of zipper sliders within the zipper locking device.

For this embodiment, it is most advantageous the base be planar and rectangular in shape. It is also beneficial for the sides of the housing to be flush with the sides of the base.

Further embodiments of the invention will be discussed hereafter. Other embodiments of the present invention do not include the pivoting arm or the stabilizer.

There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more important features of the invention in order that the detailed description thereof that follows may be better understood, and in order that the present contribution to the art may be better appreciated. There are, of course, additional features of the invention that will be described hereinafter and that will form the subject matter of the invention. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the conception, upon which this disclosure is based, may readily be utilized as a basis for the designing of other devices for carrying out the several purposes of the present invention. It is important, therefore, that the invention be regarded as including such equivalent constructions insofar as they do not depart from the spirit and scope of the present disclosure.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

The foregoing and other additional objects of the present invention will be readily appreciated by those skilled in the art upon gaining an understanding of the invention as described in the following detailed description and shown in the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. **1** illustrates a perspective view of the zipper locking device as attached to a luggage case.

FIG. **2** illustrates an exploded view of the zipper locking device.

FIG. **3** illustrates a perspective view of the zipper locking device in the open position.

FIG. **4** illustrates a perspective view of the zipper locking device in the closed position.

FIG. **5** illustrates a bottom view of the housing of the zipper locking device.

FIG. **6** illustrates a side view of the vertically extending member and the pivoting arm when the zipper locking device is in the open position.

FIG. **7** illustrates a top view of the base of the zipper locking device with the zipper sliders and zipper slider pull tabs inserted in the zipper locking device.

FIG. **8** illustrates an exploded perspective bottom view of the zipper locking device.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

While the invention may be susceptible to embodiments in different forms, there is shown in the drawings, and herein will be described in detail, specific embodiments with the understanding that the present disclosure is to be considered an exemplification of the principles of the invention, and is not intended to limit the invention to that as illustrated and described herein.

Referring to the drawings, FIG. **1** illustrates a zipper locking device generally as **10**, a luggage case **12**, and a double-slider zipper **14**. The zipper locking device **10** in this preferred embodiment comprises a base **16**, a housing **18**, a vertically extending member **20**, an arm **22**, a stabilizer **24**, and a pair of compressible pads **26** (all shown in FIG. **2**). The zipper locking device **10** could be made of metal or plastic. It is most preferable that the zipper locking device **10** comprise of a metallic substance.

In the preferred embodiment, the zipper locking device **10** is removably attached to a luggage case **12** which includes a double-slider zipper **14**. The double-slider zipper **14** comprises a pair of separate zippers that terminate at the zipper locking device **10**. The double-slider zipper **14** includes a pair of zipper sliders **28**, a pair of zipper slider pull tabs **30**, and a plurality of zipper teeth **32**. Each zipper slider **28** has a zipper slider pull tab **30** pivotally attached to the zipper slider **28** which operate the zipper teeth **32** (shown in FIG. **3**). As will be described more fully hereinafter, when the zipper locking device **10** is attached to a luggage case **12** with a double slider zipper **14**, the zipper sliders **28** and zipper slider pull tabs **30** are encased in the zipper locking device **10**, remaining in that position while the zipper locking device **10** is in the (shown in FIG. **4**) closed position.

The zipper locking device **10** translates along the vertically extending member **20** between an open position as shown in FIG. **3** and a closed position as shown in FIG. **4**. When the zipper locking device **10** is removably attached to a luggage case **12**, the device **10** is in the closed position. In the closed position, a locking means **34** can be inserted in the zipper locking device **10**, as shown in FIG. **4**. Once the locking means **34** is removed, the housing can translate in an upwardly direction along the vertically extending member **20**, resulting in the open position, as shown in FIG. **3**. Once the device **10** is in the open position, the zipper sliders **28** and the zipper slider pull tabs **30** of a double slider zipper **14** can be inserted into or removed from the zipper locking

device **10**. The zipper locking device **10** can then closed by translating the housing **18** in the downwardly direction along the vertically extending member **20** towards the base **16**. The housing **18** is translated along the vertically extending member **20** in the upwardly and downwardly direction by a user by engaging fingers of a hand with the housing **18**. Further details of the foregoing component parts of the device **10** and their operation will be set forth later.

FIG. **2** is an exploded view of the zipper locking device **10**. In the preferred embodiment, the housing **18** is a dome like hollow chamber comprised of a pair of parallel side sheets **38** and a top sheet **40**. Each side sheet **38** of the housing **18** is planar and substantially semi-oval in shape, with a top edge **40** and a base edge **42**. In this embodiment, the top sheet **38** of the housing **18** is most preferably arcuate and substantially rectangular in shape with a pair of side edges **44** and a pair of zipper edges **46**. Each side edge **44** of the top sheet **38** of the housing **18** is perpendicularly attached to one of the top edges **40** of one of the side sheets **36** to form the housing **18**. Further, the top sheet **38** of the housing **18** should embody a convex outer side **48** and a concave inner side **50** (shown in FIG. **5** and FIG. **8**), such that the concave inner side **50** should face the base **16**. The housing **18** further comprises a base surface **52** which contacts the luggage case **12** when the zipper locking device **10** is in the closed position.

It will be readily appreciated by those skilled in the art that other suitable shapes of the housing **16** are possible which are consistent with the spirit and scope of the present invention. The housing **16** can be hollow and semi-spherical, semi-elliptical, rectangular or cubical.

The housing **18** further includes an aperture **54** located substantially in the middle of the top sheet **38** of the housing **18** and, in the preferred embodiment, a pair of opposing horizontal indents **56**. Each horizontal indent **56** is carved into one of the zipper edges **46** of the top sheet **38** of the housing **18**. In this way, the opposing horizontal indents **56** overlay the double-slider zipper **14** when the zipper **14** is locked in the device **10**. In the preferred embodiment, the pair of horizontal indents **56** are each substantially rectangular in shape, each having a top edge **58** and a pair of sides edges **60**.

It is most preferred that the base **16** is planar and substantially rectangular and have an upper surface **62**, a pair of opposing side edges **64** and a pair of opposing zipper edges **66**. It will be readily appreciated by those skilled in the art that other suitable shapes of the base **18** are possible which are consistent with the spirit and scope of the present invention. The base **18** could be square, circular, or oval.

In the closed position, the base surface **52** of the housing **18** rests on the upper surface **62** of the base **16** if the device **10** has not been attached to a luggage case **12**. It is preferred that the base surface **52** of the housing **18** be the same shape and size as the base **16**. In the preferred embodiment, each side sheet **36** of the housing **18** is approximately flush with a side edge **64** of the base **16**, and each zipper edge **46** of the top sheet **38** of the housing **18** is approximately flush with a zipper edge **66** of the base **16**. However, the alignment of each side sheet **36** of the housing with a side edge **64** of the base **16** and the alignment of each zipper edge **46** of the top sheet **38** of the housing **18** with a zipper edge **66** of the base **16**, is not absolutely required.

The vertically extending member **20** has an upper end **68**, a lower end **70**, an aperture **72**, and a hole **74**. The lower end **70** of the vertically extending member **20** extends upwardly from and is attached in substantially the middle of the upper

surface **62** of the base **16** and is positioned to project through the aperture **54** of the housing **18**. The aperture **54** of the housing **18** has sufficient size allow the translation of the vertically extending member **20** therethrough.

The housing **18** translates along the vertically extending member **20** between the open position and the closed position. The housing **18** is raised in the upwardly direction and lowered in the downwardly direction by a user by engaging fingers of a hand with the housing **18**. The aperture **72** of the vertically extending member **20** is positioned so that it is proximate to the convex outer side **48** of the top sheet **38** of the housing **18** when the zipper locking device **10** is in the closed position.

The compressible pads **26** are mounted on the upper surface **62** of the base **16**, each having an upper surface **76**. In the preferred embodiment, the pair of compressible pads **26** are planar and substantially rectangular in shape. The compressible pads **26** can be made of any compressible material, but it is most preferred that the compressible pads **26** comprise of rubber. The compressible pads **26** are mounted on the upper surface **62** of the base **18**, preferably by an adhesive **77** (not shown). Each compressible pad **26** is positioned proximate to one of the opposing zipper edges **66** of the base **16**. It will be readily appreciated by those skilled in the art that other placements, locations, materials, shapes, and sizes of the compression pads **26** are possible which are consistent with the spirit and scope of the present invention. In an alternate embodiment, the compression pads **26** could be mounted to entire upper surface **62** of the base **18**. In other embodiments, the compressible pads **26** could be circular or triangular in shape.

Still referring to FIG. **2**, the arm **22** has a pivoting end **78**, a housing end **80**, an aperture **82**, and a hole **84**. In the most preferred embodiment, a slot **85** is typically located at the pivoting end **78** of the arm **22**, the upper end **68** of the vertically extending member **20** is inserted therewithin. However, the slot **85** at the pivoting end **78** of the arm **22** is not absolutely required.

In this embodiment, the pivoting end **78** of the arm **22** is pivotally attached to the upper end **68** of the vertically extending member **20** by a threaded bolt **86** and a threaded nut **88**. The holes **74**, **84** of the vertically extending member **20** and the arm **22** are aligned to allow insertion of a threaded bolt **86** therethrough, which is secured by a threaded nut **88**. However, it will be readily appreciated by those skilled in the art that other suitable means of pivotal attachment are possible which are consistent with the spirit and scope of the present invention.

When the zipper locking device **10** is in the open position, the apertures **72**, **82** of the vertically extending member and the arm **22** are not aligned. When the zipper locking device **10** is in the closed position, the apertures **72**, **82** of the vertically extending member **20** and the arm **22** are aligned to allow insertion of a locking means **34** therethrough. In the closed position, the housing end **80** of the arm **22** presses in the downwardly direction to secure the housing **18** and lock the zipper **14**.

In the preferred embodiment, a stabilizer **24** includes an aperture **90** and a housing surface **92**, the stabilizer **24** being substantially cubical in shape, although other shapes are possible. The housing surface **92** of the stabilizer **24** is attached to the concave inner side **50** of the top sheet **38** of the housing **18**. The aperture **90** of the stabilizer **24** is substantially the same size as the aperture **54** of the housing **18**, the apertures **54**, **90** of the housing **18** and the stabilizer **24** being aligned and of sufficient size as to allow insertion of the vertically extending member **20** therethrough.

The stabilizer **24** and the housing **18** are preferably secured together so that the upper surface **92** of the stabilizer **24** is removably secured to the concave inner side **50** of the top sheet **38** of the housing **18**. It is most preferred in this embodiment that the stabilizer **24** have a plurality of holes **96** and that the top sheet **38** of the housing **18** also have a plurality of holes **98**. In this way, when the top sheet **38** of the housing **18** overlays upper surface **92** of the stabilizer **24**, the plurality of holes **96** and **98** will be aligned for the passage of threaded bolts **94** therethrough. The plurality of threaded bolts **94** are inserted into the plurality of holes **96** and **98** to removably secure the housing **18** and the stabilizer **24** to each other. The exact number of holes **96** and **98** and threaded bolts **94** is not of paramount important, but it is common sensical that the number of threaded holes **96** and **98** should match the number of threaded bolts **94** used therefor.

FIG. **8** depicts an exploded perspective bottom view of a zipper locking device **10**. The upper surface **92** (not shown) of the stabilizer **24** is mounted to the concave inner side **50** of the top sheet **38** of the housing **10**. The vertically extending member **20** projects from the base **16** and through the apertures **54** (not shown), **90** of the stabilizer **24** and the housing **18**.

FIG. **3** depicts the open position of the zipper locking device **10** attached to a luggage case **12** with the zipper teeth **32** of the zipper **14** engaged with each other, the base **16** of the device **10** still in view. In the open position, after the locking means **34** is removed, the housing **18** is lifted off along the vertically extending member **20** towards its upper end **68** by a user by engaging fingers of hand with the housing **18**. The base **16** of the zipper locking device **10** can then be inserted inside an almost entirely zipped luggage case **12**, the upper surface **62** of the base **16** contacting the interior surface **100** (not shown) of the luggage case **12**. The zipper sliders **28** and the zipper slider pull tabs **30** of the zipper **14** are pulled towards the vertically extending member **20** of the open device **10** by a user by engaging fingers of the hand with the zipper slider pull tabs **30**. The zipper slider pull tabs **30** can be pulled until the zipper sliders **28** are positioned approximately on the compressible pads **26** proximate to the vertically extending member **20**, the zipper slider pull tabs **30** pivoted distal to the vertically extending member **20**. Once the housing **18** is lowered, the zipper locking device **10** is in the closed position.

In the open position, the arm **22** is pivoted upwards away from the housing **18**. In the open position, the apertures **72**, **82** of the arm **22** and the vertically extending member **20** (see FIG. **6**) are not aligned. In this position, the housing **16** is capable of translating in the upwardly and downwardly direction along the vertically extending member **20**.

As shown in FIG. **4**, when the zipper locking device **10** is attached to a luggage case **12**, the housing **18** is lowered and released by a user by disengaging fingers of a hand so that the base surface **52** of the housing **18** contacts the exterior surface **102** of the luggage case **12**. When the housing **18** is lowered and the device **10** is in the closed position, the zipper sliders **28** and the zipper slider pull tabs **30** are encased within the housing **18** to secure the zipper teeth **32** (as shown in FIG. **7**) from disengagement from each other. Each zipper slider **28** is positioned so that each is located on the upper surface **76** of one of the compressible pads **26**. Once the housing **18** is lowered, each zipper **14** is trapped between the upper surface **76** of one of the compressible pads **26** and the top edge **58** of one of the opposing horizontal indents **56** of the housing **18**.

Once the housing **18** is lowered, the arm **22** is pivoted in the downwardly direction so that the housing end **80** of the

arm **22** contacts the outer surface **48** of the top sheet **38** of the housing **18**, in order to secure the device **10** in the closed position. In addition, the arm **22** is pivoted in the downwardly direction so that the apertures **72**, **82** of the vertically extending member **20** and arm **22** are aligned to allow the passing of a locking means **34** therethrough. In the preferred embodiment, the locking means **34** is a padlock. After the addition of the locking means **34**, the arm **22** cannot pivot and the housing **18** is prohibited from translating along the vertically extending member **20**. The zipper sliders **28** and the zipper slider pull tabs **30** are locked within the zipper locking device **10** until the device is operated in the manner previously described to permit the translation of the housing **18** and thereafter the release of the zipper sliders **28** and the zipper slider pull tabs **30** and the disengagement of the plurality of zipper teeth **32**.

Once the zipper locking device **10** is attached to a luggage case **12**, as shown in FIG. **1**, its novel advantages will become apparent. For one, the present invention secures the zipper **14** of a luggage case **12** and prevents the disengagement of the zipper teeth **32** from each other. Thus employed, the zipper teeth **32** remain engaged, preventing the unauthorized access of the interior contents (not shown) of the luggage case **12**. Also, the zipper locking device **10** is removably attached to the luggage case **12**, allowing the device **10** to be usable on various different luggage cases **12**. This is favorable over prior art zipper locking devices which are permanently attached to a luggage case and cannot be removed for use on other luggage cases **12**. Additionally, the locking means **34** is not incorporated into the zipper locking device **10**, allowing the alternation of various different locking means **34** and locking devices.

Another embodiment of the present invention does not include an arm **22** pivotally attached to the vertically extending member **20**. In this embodiment, the aperture **42** of the vertically extending member **20** allows for the entry of a locking means **34** therethrough. The locking means **34** prevents the translation of the housing **18** in the upwardly and downwardly direction along the vertically extending member **20**. In this embodiment, in the closed position, the aperture **42** of the vertically extending member **20** should be substantially proximate to the outer surface **48** of the top sheet **38** of the housing **18**. In another embodiment of the instant invention, the device **10** does not include a stabilizer **24** attached to the inner surface **50** of the top sheet **38** of the housing **18**.

While the invention has been described in connection with a preferred embodiment and several alternative embodiments, it will be understood that it is not intended that the invention be limited to those embodiments. On the contrary, it is intended to cover all alternatives, modifications and equivalents as may be included within the spirit and scope of the invention as disclosed.

As to the manner of usage and operation of the instant invention, same should be apparent from the above disclosure, and accordingly no further discussion relevant to the manner of usage and operation of the instant invention shall be provided.

With respect to the above description then, it is to be realized that the optimum dimensional relationships for the parts of the invention, to include variations in size, materials, shape, form, function and manner of operation, assembly and use, are deemed readily apparent and obvious to one skilled in the art, and all equivalent relationships to those illustrated in the drawings and described in the specification are intended to be encompassed by the present invention.

Therefore, the foregoing is considered illustrative of only the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention.

The foregoing discussion is illustrative of the invention. However, since many embodiments of the invention can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention, the invention resides wholly in the claims hereinafter appended.

I claim:

1. A removable zipper locking device for enclosing a pair of zipper sliders, the zipper locking device comprising:

a. a housing having an concave inner side, an convex outer side, a base surface, an aperture, and a pair of opposing zipper edges, the opposing zipper edges each including an indent being carved at each zipper edge;

b. a base having an upper surface and a pair of opposing zipper edges;

c. a vertically extending member having an upper end, a lower end, and a aperture positioned substantially proximate to the convex outer side of the housing when the zipper locking device is in the closed position, the lower end of the vertically extending member affixed to the upper surface of the base, wherein the vertically extending member projects from the upper surface of the base and is positioned to project through the aperture in the housing;

d. a means for securing the zipper sliders within the zipper locking device;

e. a means for locking the zipper locking device,

whereby the zipper locking device locks the pair of zipper sliders substantially proximate to one another when the zipper locking device is in a closed position, the pair of zipper sliders operating a plurality of zipper teeth and each having a zipper slider pull tab.

2. The zipper locking device as recited in claim **1**, wherein the means for securing the zipper sliders within the zipper locking device comprising at least one compressible pad mounted to the upper surface of the base, at least one compressible pad positioned proximate to the pair of opposing zipper edges of the base.

3. The zipper locking device as recited in claim **1** further comprising an arm having a pivoting end and an aperture positioned proximate to the pivoting end, the pivoting end of the arm pivotally attached by an attachment means to the upper end of the vertically extending member, the aperture of the arm aligning with the aperture of the vertically extending member in the closed position and not aligning in the open position.

4. The zipper locking device as recited in claim **3** wherein the vertically extending member further comprises a hole and the arm further comprises a hole, the hole of the vertically extending member and the hole of the arm being aligned and the attachment means passing therethrough, the attachment means comprising a threaded bolt and a threaded nut.

5. The zipper locking device as recited in claim **1** further comprising a stabilizer attached to the concave inner side of the housing, the stabilizer having an aperture substantially the same size as the aperture of the housing, the aperture of the stabilizer and the aperture of the housing being aligned and the vertically extending member passing therethrough.

6. The zipper locking device as recited in claim **1** wherein the base and the base surface of the housing are substantially rectangular in shape.

7. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 1 wherein the locking means passes through the aperture of the vertically extending member and the aperture of the arm, being aligned, when the zipper locking device is in the closed position.

8. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 7 wherein the locking means is a padlock.

9. A removable zipper locking device for enclosing a pair of zipper sliders, the zipper locking device comprising:

a. a housing having an concave inner side, an convex outer side, a base surface, an aperture, and a pair of opposing zipper edges, the opposing zipper edges each including an indent being carved at each zipper edge;

b. a base having an upper surface and a pair of opposing zipper edges;

c. a vertically extending member having an upper end, a lower end, and a aperture positioned substantially proximate to the convex outer side of the housing when the zipper locking device is in the closed position, the lower end of the vertically extending member affixed to the upper surface of the base, wherein the vertically extending member projects from the upper surface of the base and is positioned to project through the aperture in the housing;

d. a means for securing the zipper sliders within the zipper locking device;

e. an arm having a pivoting end and an aperture positioned proximate to the pivoting end, the pivoting end of the arm pivotally attached by an attachment means to the upper end of the vertically extending member, the aperture of the arm aligning with the aperture of the vertically extending member in the closed position and not aligning in the open position; and

f. a means for locking the zipper locking device,

whereby the zipper locking device locks the pair of zipper sliders substantially proximate to one another when the zipper locking device is in a closed position, the pair of zipper sliders operating a plurality of zipper teeth and each having a zipper slider pull tab.

10. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 9, wherein the means for securing the zipper sliders within the zipper locking device comprising at least one compressible pad mounted to the upper surface of the base, at least one compressible pad positioned proximate to the pair of opposing zipper edges of the base.

11. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 9 wherein the vertically extending member further comprises a hole and the arm further comprises a hole, the hole of the vertically extending member and the hole of the arm being aligned and the attachment means passing therethrough, the attachment means comprising a threaded bolt and a threaded nut.

12. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 9 further comprising a stabilizer attached to the concave inner side of the housing, the stabilizer having an aperture substantially the same size as the aperture of the housing, the aperture of the stabilizer and the aperture of the housing being aligned and the vertically extending member passing therethrough.

13. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 9 wherein the base and the base surface of the housing are substantially rectangular in shape.

14. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 9 wherein the locking means passes through the aperture of the vertically extending member and the aperture of the arm, being aligned, when the zipper locking device is in the closed position.

15. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 14 wherein the locking means is a padlock.

16. A removable zipper locking device for enclosing a pair of zipper sliders, the zipper locking device comprising:

a. a housing having an concave inner side, an convex outer side, a base surface, an aperture, and a pair of opposing zipper edges, the opposing zipper edges each including an indent being carved at each zipper edge;

b. a base having an upper surface and a pair of opposing zipper edges;

c. a vertically extending member having an upper end, a lower end, and a aperture positioned substantially proximate to the convex outer side of the housing when the zipper locking device is in the closed position, the lower end of the vertically extending member affixed to the upper surface of the base, wherein the vertically extending member projects from the upper surface of the base and is positioned to project through the aperture in the housing;

d. a means for securing the zipper sliders within the zipper locking device;

e. a stabilizer attached to the concave inner side of the housing, the stabilizer having an aperture substantially the same size as the aperture of the housing, the aperture of the stabilizer and the aperture of the housing being aligned and the vertically extending member passing therethrough; and

f. a means for locking the zipper locking device,

whereby the zipper locking device locks the pair of zipper sliders substantially proximate to one another when the zipper locking device is in a closed position, the pair of zipper sliders operating a plurality of zipper teeth and each having a zipper slider pull tab.

17. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 16, wherein the means for securing the zipper sliders within the zipper locking device comprising at least one compressible pad mounted to the upper surface of the base, at least one compressible pad positioned proximate to the pair of opposing zipper edges of the base.

18. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 16 further comprising an arm having a pivoting end and an aperture positioned proximate to the pivoting end, the pivoting end of the arm pivotally attached by an attachment means to the upper end of the vertically extending member, the aperture of the arm aligning with the aperture of the vertically extending member in the closed position and not aligning in the open position.

19. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 18 wherein the vertically extending member further comprises a hole and the arm further comprises a hole, the hole of the vertically extending member and the hole of the arm being aligned and the attachment means passing therethrough, the attachment means comprising a threaded bolt and a threaded nut.

20. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 16 wherein the base and the base surface of the housing are substantially rectangular in shape.

21. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 16 wherein the locking means passes through the aperture of the vertically extending member and the aperture of the arm, being aligned, when the zipper locking device is in the closed position.

22. The zipper locking device as recited in claim 21 wherein the locking means is a padlock.

23. A removable zipper locking device for enclosing a pair of zipper sliders, the zipper locking device comprising:

a. a housing having an concave inner side, an convex outer side, a base surface, an aperture, and a pair of opposing zipper edges, the opposing zipper edges each including an indent being carved at each zipper edge;

b. a base having an upper surface and a pair of opposing zipper edges;

c. a vertically extending member having an upper end, a lower end, and a aperture positioned substantially proximate to the convex outer side of the housing when the zipper locking device is in the closed position, the lower end of the vertically extending member affixed to the upper surface of the base, wherein the vertically extending member projects from the upper surface of the base and is positioned to project through the aperture in the housing;

d. a means for securing the zipper sliders within the zipper locking device;

e. an arm having a pivoting end and an aperture positioned proximate to the pivoting end, the pivoting end of the arm pivotally attached by an attachment means to the upper end of the vertically extending member, the aperture of the arm aligning with the aperture of the vertically extending member in the closed position and not aligning in the open position;

g. a stabilizer attached to the concave inner side of the housing, the stabilizer having an aperture substantially the same size as the aperture of the housing, the aperture of the stabilizer and the aperture of the housing being aligned and the vertically extending member passing therethrough; and

h. a means for locking the zipper locking device,

whereby the zipper locking device locks the pair of zipper sliders substantially proximate to one another when the zipper locking device is in a closed position, the pair of zipper sliders operating a plurality of zipper teeth and each having a zipper slider pull tab.

24. The zipper locking device as recited in claim **23**, wherein the means for securing the zipper sliders within the zipper locking device comprising at least one compressible pad mounted to the upper surface of the base, at least one compressible pad positioned proximate to the pair of opposing zipper edges of the base.

25. The zipper locking device as recited in claim **23** wherein the vertically extending member further comprises a hole and the arm further comprises a hole, the hole of the vertically extending member and the hole of the arm being aligned and the attachment means passing therethrough, the attachment means comprising a threaded bolt and a threaded nut.

26. The zipper locking device as recited in claim **23** wherein the base and the base surface of the housing are substantially rectangular in shape.

27. The zipper locking device as recited in claim **23** wherein the locking means passes through the aperture of the vertically extending member and the aperture of the arm, being aligned, when the zipper locking device is in the closed position.

28. The zipper locking device as recited in claim **27** wherein the locking means is a padlock.

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